

WORSHIP IN REVERENCE AND AWE

Hebrews 12:28-29

INTRODUCTION

- A. In the process of teaching on love for one another and submission to each other, it was suggested that we consider more seriously what we wear for worship, so as not to be offensive to others.
 - 1. Rom. 15:5-6 – one mind, so that in one accord, one voice glorify God
 - 2. Eph. 5:21
- B. Today, we want to compare our preparation for worship with the required preparation for worship by the Israelites.
- C. We often hear the phrases, “*But the Lord knows my heart*” or “*We are no longer under the old law.*”
- D. But, is our worship acceptable to God, or is it possible that we are trying to justify ourselves in God’s eyes?

I. REVERENCE BEFORE GOD ON THE SABBATH.

- A. Scriptures pertaining to Sabbath worship.
 - 1. Ex. 20:8; 31:13-17
 - a. To be “*holy*” or “*sanctified*” is to be treated with special care as a possession of God.
 - b. The Sabbath was to be a sign of the covenant between God and Israel, vs. 17.
 - c. It was also to be a reminder of the deliverance from Egypt, Dt. 5:15.
 - 2. Ezekiel 20:12-16
- B. Tabernacle ***extra-ordinary!***
 - 1. Description of materials, Ex. 25-29; 35-39
 - a. Ex. 25:1-9
 - b. Gold, silver, bronze, purple, scarlet.
 - 2. Special talents needed to build given to Bezalel and Oholiab, Ex. 31:3-6.
 - 3. Incense for tabernacle only, Ex. 30:34-38!
 - 4. Anointing oil for tabernacle only, Ex. 30:22-33!
- C. Priesthood ***extra-ordinary!***
 - 1. Priests consecrated for serving at the tabernacle, Lev. 8.
 - 2. Clothing required for serving at tabernacle, Ex. 28, 39.
 - a. Even undergarments were specified, Ex. 28:42-43.
- D. Not to be treated as ***ordinary!***
 - 1. God expected His people to be holy.
 - 2. Nadab and Abihu (Lev. 10:1-3) treated in ordinary way.

II. THE LORD’S DAY TODAY.

- A. Why we come together on Sunday.
 - 1. A memorial of the resurrection of Christ, Mk. 16:9.
 - 2. The Holy Spirit was given to the apostles, Acts 2:1-4.
 - 3. The church began on Sunday, Acts 2:37-42.
 - 4. The church met to remember Christ’s death, burial and resurrection, Acts 20:7.
 - 5. The church uses this day for collection, 1 Cor. 16:1-2.

6. The church uses this day to encourage and teach, Heb. 10:23-25.
- B. Not to be treated as an ordinary day!
 1. Mt. 21:33-40, "*Respect*" is "*to hold in reverence.*" (v. 37)
 2. Jn. 4:23-24
 3. 1 Pet. 2:9-10, "*...royal priesthood, holy nation, ...people of God.*"
- C. Are we in danger of treating as common the holy things of God? Eze. 22:8, "*You have despised My holy things and desecrated My Sabbaths.*"
- D. For your consideration:
 1. Why do we wear what we wear?
 - a. Is it based on a need for personal comfort? Jesus at the cross...
 - b. Coming from or going to leisure activity? Are we putting Christ first?
 - c. Just what I had available, Ex. 19:10 (prep for Sinai).
 2. Are we using Saturday to prepare for the Lord's Day?
 - a. Extra sleep, Bible study for class, clothes set aside, meal preparations...
 3. When we come in for worship at the last minute or leave before dismissal, have we truly shown reverence to God?
 4. Have we put away those things which draw our attention from our worship to God?
 5. Does it sound as if we are making the Lord's Day a holy *extra-ordinary* day, or has it become just an ordinary day?

CLOSING

- A. Heb. 12:28-29